

# ***NEWS RELEASE***

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## ***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney  
Carol C. Lam***

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***For Immediate Release***

### **NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - November 3, 2006**

United States Attorney Carol C. Lam announced that Walter B. Christopher was sentenced today in United States District Court in San Diego by the Honorable Dana L. Sabraw to serve 12 months in custody, and a \$2,500 fine following Christopher's conviction for theft of public property. Judge Sabraw also ordered that Christopher serve a three-year term of supervised release following his release from prison during which he cannot be employed as a security guard, and that he must participate in alcohol and anger management treatment. Christopher previously pled guilty to one count of Theft of Public Property, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 641.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Valerie H. Chu, who prosecuted the case, the conviction stems from thefts committed by Christopher while he worked as a security guard for the Naval Exchange at the 32nd Street Naval Station. The Navy Exchange at the 32nd Street Naval Station is operated by the Navy Exchange System, a non-appropriated fund instrumentality of the Department of Defense and the Navy. The mission

of the Navy Exchange System is to provide retail goods and services to servicemen and women at a savings and to support quality of life programs.

In connection with his guilty plea, Christopher admitted that on numerous occasions in April and May 2005, he stole for his use and the use of another items designated for retail sale from the Naval Exchange, including computers, clothing, car stereo equipment, handbags, jewelry, and other merchandise. More than 250 items were subsequently found in Christopher's home and personal vehicle; the merchandise has an estimated value of approximately \$80,280.23.

The case is the result of an investigation by the Naval Criminal Investigative Service.

**DEFENDANT**

**Case Number: 05CR0851-DMS**

WALTER B. CHRISTOPHER

**SUMMARY OF CHARGES**

Title 18, United States Code, Section 641 (Theft of Public Property having a total value exceeding \$1,000)

**AGENCY**

Naval Criminal Investigative Service